

CLAIMS

1. A method in a communication device, the method comprising:
 - detecting in the communication device an activation of a user interface by a first user input;
 - in response to detection of the first user input, enabling a first muting mode in the communication device;
 - detecting in the communication device an activation of the user interface by a second user input; and
 - 10 in response to detection of the second user input, disabling the first muting mode and enabling a second muting mode in the communication device.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - detecting activation of the user interface by a third user input; and
 - 15 in response to detection of the third user input, disabling the second muting mode in the communication device.
3. The method of claim 2, further comprising:
 - providing an alert upon the disabling of at least one of the first muting mode and the second muting mode in the communication device.
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4. The method of claim 1, wherein the first muting mode is one of a full muting mode and a concealed muting mode.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the second muting mode is the other one of the full muting mode and the concealed muting mode.

5 6. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the activation of the user interface by the second user input is detected in the communication device during a pre-determined time interval; and

in response to the detection of the second user input during the pre-determined time interval, disabling the first muting mode and enabling a second muting mode in
10 the communication device.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the pre-determined time interval is approximately one second.

15 8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

providing a first alert upon the enabling of the first muting mode in the communication device.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising:

20 providing a second alert upon the enabling of the second muting mode in the communication device.

10. A communication device, comprising:
 - a user interface responsive to user input; and
 - a controller, communicatively coupled to the user interface, for:
 - detecting in the communication device an activation of the user interface by a first user input;
 - in response to detection of the first user input, enabling a first muting mode in the communication device;
 - detecting in the communication device an activation of the user interface by a second user input; and
 - 10 in response to detection of the second user input, disabling the first muting mode and enabling a second muting mode in the communication device.
 11. The communication device of claim 10, further comprising:
 - a first mute controller communicatively coupled to the controller for providing the first muting mode in the communication device; and
 - a second mute controller communicatively coupled to the controller for providing the second muting mode in the communication device.
 12. The communication device of claim 11, wherein the first mute controller is for providing one of a full muting mode and a concealed muting mode in the communication device.

13. The communication device of claim 12, wherein the second mute controller is for providing the other one of the full muting mode and the concealed muting mode in the communication device.

- 5 14. The communication device of claim 10, further comprising:
- a timer, communicatively coupled with the controller, for selectively providing a timer value to the controller, and wherein
 the activation of the user interface by the second user input is detected in the communication device during a pre-determined time interval; and
- 10 in response to the detection of the second user input during the pre-determined time interval, disabling the first muting mode and enabling a second muting mode in the communication device.
15. The communication device of claim 10, further comprising:
- 15 an alert circuit, communicatively coupled to the controller, for providing alerts to a user of the communication device, and wherein the alert circuit for
 providing a first alert upon the enabling of the first muting mode in the communication device.
- 20 16. The communication device of claim 15, wherein the alert circuit for providing a second alert upon the enabling of the second muting mode in the communication device.

17. The communication device of claim 16, wherein the alert circuit for providing a third alert upon the disabling of at least one of the first muting mode and the second muting mode in the communication device.

5 18. The communication device of claim 10, wherein the first muting mode is one of a full muting mode and a concealed muting mode.

19. The communication device of claim 18, wherein the second muting mode is the other one of the full muting mode and the concealed muting mode.

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20. A communication device, comprising:

a user interface responsive to user input;

a first mute mode;

a second mute mode; and

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a controller, communicatively coupled to the user interface, for:

detecting in the communication device an activation of a first user interface to establish the first mute mode;

detecting in the communication device an activation of a second user interface to establish the second mute mode.

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21. The communication device of claim 20, wherein the first mute mode is one of a full muting mode and a concealed muting mode.

22. The communication device of claim 21, wherein the second mute mode is the other one of the full muting mode and the concealed muting mode.